

go with Fritz and the boatswain.
 They three
 would be enough to handle the boat,
 and they
 would not go farther away to the north
 than they
 must. If they found that the coast-line
 bounded
 nothing more than an islet they could
 make the
 circuit of it and be back within twenty-
 four hours.

Short as their absence might be,
 the idea of
 it excited great uneasiness. The rest of
 the party
 would not be able to see their
 companions go
 without much anxiety. How could
 they tell
 what might happen ? Suppose they
 were attacked
 by savages—suppose they could not get
 back soon
 —suppose they did not come back at
 all ?

Jenny used these arguments with
 characteristic
 energy. She insisted that the many
 anxieties
 they endured already should not be
 added to by
 others arising from an absence which
 might be
 prolonged. Fritz sympathised with her
 arguments,
 Captain Gould accepted them, and
 ultimately
 it was agreed that they should all take
 part in the
 projected exploration*

As soon as this decision had been
 arrived at,
 to the general satisfaction, John Block
 got busy
 putting the boat in order. Not that it
 required

any repairs, for it had come to little
harm since
it had been cast adrift, but it was well
to overhaul
it and fit it up in anticipation of a
possible ex-
tension of the voyage to some
adjoining land*
So the boatswain worked his hardest,
to make it